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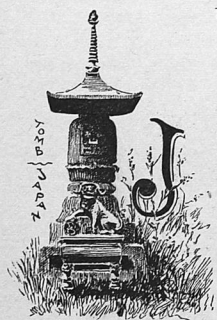
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THE BEST WAY TO MOVE.



UST how the packing up for moving should be done depends a good deal upon the distance that the goods and chattels must be carried.

One of the most important items in such a task is the selection of careful and competent men, and suitable trucks or wagons.

For shipment by rail or boat, there are some customs that are nearly always followed out, with what results the owners of the household goods so transported have doubtless learned to their sorrow on more than one occasion.

The simple local move, often but a few blocks or across the city, is generally a hap-hazard emptying of presses and cupboards, and packing into trunks and boxes of all sorts of articles, apparently with the intent to produce the greatest amount of confusion at the other end of the line. If the distance is not too great, and the men are fairly careful and competent, the packing need not be a very formidable task.

In moving from one house or flat to another it is always desirable that the future residence be thoroughly swept and dusted at least. It is better if it can be fully cleaned and put in order, but this is often impossible, as in many instances the premises are vacated and occupied on the same day. In such cases, if possible, have an understanding with the departing tenant as to the rooms to be vacated first, and move your own effects accordingly.

If the house is vacant, it is desirable that there should be fuel sent in, and a fire made in the kitchen range, so that hot water is ready in case of need, and that the pails, brushes, cleaning cloths

and dusters should be sent over in advance. It is a good plan to send the kitchen and dining-room furniture by the first load. Let some member of the family or a servant precede it, and give the men instructions where to put it, and thus save the work of rehandling. In packing china, barrels are specially desirable. Two or three are usually sufficient for small families; of course where there are large quantities of china and glassware more will be required.

One of the best housekeepers, and one who has reduced moving to a science, always orders half a dozen barrels and has them sent in each about two-thirds full of clean sawdust. The first barrel is emptied until only an inch or so of sawdust remains in it, then the china is put in, piece by piece, and the sawdust liberally sprinkled in, filling the barrel gradually with breakable articles, and when full all is made secure by tying a cloth over the top and tacking the edges and corners with ordinary carpet tacks. This lady says that in five moves the amount of damage done to china and bric-a-brac would not exceed two dollars. Plated ware goes with perfect safety when packed in this way, and many more articles can be put in the same space than if paper or other material is employed.

Kitchen utensils are often destroyed by being packed in among other things during the process of loading. This should never be. Use a large box or barrel, and put all pots, pans, and other kitchen belongings into it, the heavier and iron articles at the bottom, and give strict orders that it is to be carried without upsetting, and placed in the kitchen on its arrival. Never pack heavy articles in the sideboard or the ice-box. They are quite heavy enough by themselves, and some consideration is due to the men who must handle them. Besides, heavy packing strains all articles of furniture, and often the drawers and doors will be troublesome and refuse to work smoothly after such usage.

Hall and stair carpets should be taken up before the upper rooms are disturbed, and the dust removed by sweeping damp sawdust over the floors and steps. Care must be taken that the sawdust is not wet, as that would make the floors muddy and disagreeable. If necessary, give them a second sweeping, it will be well worth while in the freedom it insures from dust and soiled skirts and shoes.

If the carpets cannot be cleaned and put down before the furniture is put into the new residence, it is just as well to let them remain and be taken up after the furniture is carried out of the rooms. It saves a great deal of hard work and lifting, and unless there is an abundance of muscular help, this is an item not to be overlooked. The furniture may be slightly moved from the wall and the tacks drawn, so that it will be but the work of a moment to roll the carpets up at the last. If possible let all adult persons attend to the packing of their own particular belongings. Few things are more annoying than to find oneself in a strange place with a number of trunks and boxes that some one else has packed, and with no idea of the precise location of any article that may be wanted. Put the clothing into trunks by itself, and, if possible, let the dresses and outer garments be kept separate from the underwear and house-linen, as, unless this is done, there may be long journeys up and down stairs to distribute the articles properly. There is always weariness enough attending such tasks, even when precautions are taken against getting things mixed up.

Books should be packed in small boxes, never many in one large one. Few articles are as heavy, and as their bulk renders them easily manageable in moderate-sized packages, they may be transported with comparative ease by tying them in strong paper with heavy cord. Regular express package paper and twine has more than once been used to move an entire library, not a box or trunk being burdened with a volume. Large books may be put from six to eight in a package, being first wrapped in newspaper. Men will be much more careful of the property of those who show them a little consideration, and a few extra steps and a little more handling are less taxing than lifting boxes and trunks that strain every muscle to their utmost tension. It is always wise to provide a number of small boxes; shoe cases, twelve or fifteen inches wide and two or three feet long, are desirable. They may be filled with heavier articles, and in unfavorable weather will answer very well for books. Papers, documents, manuscript pamphlets, and the like, should either be put in packages or in such boxes. Paper boxes may be tied together with a strong cord and carried on the top of the load. Bedding, pillows, mattresses, and such articles should be carefully wrapped in cloth of some sort. Careful housewives provide for such emergencies by sewing together such remnants of furniture covering, or ticking, as may be on hand. The appearance or quality matters but little so long as a

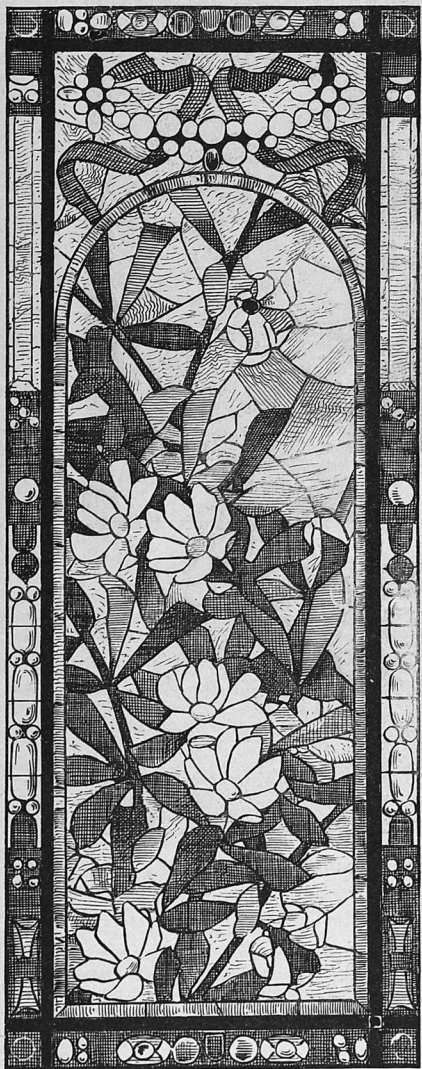
cover is provided to keep the ticks and other articles from dust and the soil of handling.

If possible, wool blankets should be packed in boxes or trunks. They are among the most difficult things to wash properly, and should be carefully handled so as not to be soiled. They should be provided with tags on which their location should be marked, so that every member of the family may have their own set. Few things are more annoying to sensitive persons than the promiscuous use of blankets and other bedding.

In moving into a house of several stories, it is desirable that there be as little dust and confusion as possible. Many housekeepers put the greater



STAINED GLASS CHURCH WINDOW, DESIGNED AND MADE BY WM. J. MCPHERSON.



STAINED GLASS WINDOW FOR PRIVATE RESIDENCE, DESIGNED AND MADE BY W. J. MCPHERSON.

part of the upstairs furniture upon the parlor floor until the upper portion of the house is in order to receive it. Unless the bed-rooms are imperatively needed for the members of the family, this is a very good plan. In such cases the upper floor should be thoroughly cleaned, the carpets laid, and then the furniture put in. The same process can be repeated on the floor next below. By keeping the stairs and halls as free from dust as possible, a great deal of labor may be saved in this way, as there is no work to be done over and over again, as is the case where the entire house is going through the settling process at the same time.